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ABSTRACT

In addition to supporting instructional services, a major function of the community college library or learning resources center (LRC) is satisfying the widely differing information and communication needs of students enrolled in four basic types of programs: (1) preparatory courses for transfer to four-year institutions; (2) vocational-technical programs; (3) general education programs ending with an associate degree; and (4) continuing education programs. However, the LRC is often under-utilized. Since one of the major reasons for this is the students' lack of library skills, library instruction programs should be designed to meet real information needs of students in specific courses. Librarians are advised to plan programs based on need-related objectives, develop closer faculty cooperation, and investigate the possibilities of obtaining program grants. The appendix provides a directory to 32 community college libraries in Michigan and describes their 1977 library instruction activities, ranging from none to comprehensive programs. (BBM)

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INSTRUCTING THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE LIBRARY USER

THE MICHIGAN EXPERIENCE

by

Hannelore B. Rader

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INSTRUCTING THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE LIBRARY USER: THE MICHIGAN EXPERIENCE

Hannelore B. Rader

Postsecondary education in the 1970s as compared to earlier periods is marked by several factors - a no-growth period related to decreasing student populations, fewer available financial resources, an older and tenured faculty, a more diversified student body, a demand for career and job-oriented programs and life-long learning opportunities. Academic institutions from the two-year colleges to the professional graduate schools are being affected at least in some degree by these phenomena and some institutions have begun to reassess their educational objectives in order to continue their existence. This of course, is a most difficult process for many traditional institutions of higher learning. Fortunately, for the two-year community colleges, adaptability to change is less traumatic and often the reason for their existence.

Responding to the needs of their students and the community is the first priority of community colleges and no efforts are spared to satisfy such needs. Because of that, community colleges have been able to attract adequate student numbers and with that, funding. Usually four major educational areas are covered by the community colleges - two-year preparatory programs for transfer to four-year colleges and universities, vocational-technical programs, general education programs ending in an associate degree and continuing education and cultural enrichment programs.

Students enrolled in these types of programs are highly diversified. Most of the "traditional" students will be found in the transfer program. These students generally are in the 18-22 age bracket, intend to go on to a four-year institution, possess some basic communication skills,

a high school education or equivalent and some motivation to succeed.

Persons enrolled in the vocational-technical programs do not necessarily fit the above mold. They may vary in age because some may be in the program for a mid-career change, to improve their skills or to learn some new skills, their academic background and interest may vary from high to low.

Students in the general education program will vary in age, ability, educational background, socio-economic level and communication skills.

Persons involved in continuing education programs will also vary greatly in age, ability, background and interest areas.

In summary, students in community colleges may range from 18-80, possess many or no communication skills, may come from many cultural and socio-economic backgrounds and display a variety of interests. They will need special services to succeed including good counseling, financial assistance, skills development and career advising.

Supporting all instructional services and satisfying information and communication needs of community students is the major function of the community college library or learning resources center, the latter name indicating the non-traditional and diversified function of libraries in community colleges. Usually the learning resources center (LRC) is comprised of the traditional library, an extensive media collection with individualized study equipment, instructional media production services and a learning skills laboratory. The LRC is often located physically in the center of the community college campus to indicate, at least philosophically, its importance in the teaching-learning process. In reality, however, the LRC is often an under-utilized facility despite valiant efforts on the part of the librarians to overcome this. One of the major reasons for this is the lack of library-oriented teaching on the part of the faculty and their own attitude toward the LRC. Students' lack of library skills also contribute to the non-use of the LRC.

To overcome both student and faculty apathy toward the library librarians plan need-related library instruction programs, especially in the 1970s.* Guidelines for such planning are available** and will help librarians become involved in the instructional process on their campus in a more meaningful manner.***

When planning a need-related library instruction program for a particular community college, the student population and the educational programs must be considered as follows:

Students enrolled in transfer programs need to become acquainted with printed resources and how to use them for their coursework so that the transfer to a four-year college library will be less traumatic for them and they will be prepared to continue their library use effectively. Course-related library instruction in cooperation with instructors is an effective method to use with this group.

For the vocational-technical program students library instruction in specific task-related information sources is needed. Utilizing both audio and visual media to supply such students with specific information skills will help them to become and stay informed about matters relating to their job skills.

Inthe general studies programs library instruction again must be based on real information needs of students in specific courses. Using a combination of media, print and tutorial methodology would be most effective.

For the continuing education and cultural enrichment programs an orientation to information sources in the LRC and community through group tours or media presentations would be ideal.

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*During 1976 I had a fellowship from the Council on Library Resources to assess library instruction programs in some U.S. And Canadian academic libraries. My comments are based on my findings.

**"Guidelines for Bibliographic Instruction in Academic Libraries"; in College and Research Libraries News, April, 1977, p.92

***Lillie Kinney, "Librarians as Educators", Community and Junior College Journal, May, 1977, p.10-11+

The Michigan Experience

There are 29 public and 4 private community colleges in Michigan (see Appendix). Their total enrollment is 203,000* ranging from 346 at Michigan Christian Junior College to 23,922 at C.S. Mott Community College. A study of the college catalogs of these community colleges reveals that they all are coeducational, feature open admissions to anyone over 18 and offer the four types of educational programs described previously. With one exception, the library or learning resource center of each community college is mentioned in the catalogs. The information given on the LRCs ranges from one line to 3½ pages and ranges from general descriptions to specific services. Several write-ups concern the instructional services of the LRC such as "Glen Oaks Learning Center plays a vital role in the instructional programs of the College" and in the Lansing Community College catalog specifics on library use instruction offered by the LRC are given. The collections of the LRCs vary greatly, from 3760 volumes and 35 journal subscriptions in the Muskegon Business College to 78,490 volumes in Delta College and 1173 journal subscriptions in Oakland Community College, Orchard Ridge campus. In addition to the traditional print holdings all of the LRC have extensive microform collections, film, filmstrip, tape, videotape holdings and interlibrary cooperation to extend their information sources. The number of librarians servicing the LRCs range from one to several.

The library orientation-instruction programs in these community colleges range from nothing to very comprehensive, most of the LRCs however, offer something in between. Five institutions report no orientation-instruction program, eight institutions offer very extensive

*The enrollment figures are based on headcount, fall, 1975 from Michigan Department of Education. 1976-77 Directory of Michigan Institutions of Higher Education.

programs utilizing different methodologies and formats and six libraries are either offering or in the process of instituting a library skills credit course.

The majority of the LRCs provide orientation tours and lectures to classes upon request from faculty, most often to the English courses. This type of service is dependent upon the cooperation between the faculty and the librarians and often a difficult process, especially, in view of the many part-time instructors at community colleges. However, several institutions report that they cover their English courses 100% in the area of library instruction. The majority of the librarians report also that an exercise of some variety is used in conjunction with the library lecture. Less than half of the libraries utilize media library instruction (11 so far) but several more are in the process of preparing such programs. Some type of printed instruction is also available at most of these libraries to help the user along in his or her information search. Talks and orientation tours to special groups are also reported as being offered at a majority of these community college libraries. These groups may include prisoners, senior citizens, high school students and so on. Several of the librarians report that in the past they have tried other formats of teaching library skills to their clients but have had to abandon some of them because of lack of interestand/or other pressing duties or lack of enough librarians.

Most of the librarians in these community colleges, however, continue to feel the need for offering and providing library use instruction to their users. Quite a number of them are in the process of revamping their present program and planning a better and more successful program. Generally, these librarians feel that library orientation is one of the major ways in which community college librarians can serve their users

well* and they try continously to persuade faculty members to make the use of the library an integral part of each course. In that way students would be more motivated to learn library skills and library use instruction would become more of a required skill which students would need to learn before leaving the institution.

The Michigan experience is closely related to the national scene of library instruction in community colleges. The programs range from none to comprehensive, e.g. Miami Dade Community College has a very extensive library orientation-instruction program based on objectives, student needs and close cooperation with faculty and administraton. Project LOEX, the National clearinghouse on library orientation and instruction materials, located at Eastern Michigan University reports that 30% of its 1400 academic library members are community colleges and their program descriptions and material deposits closely relate to the Michigan experience.**

In summary it can be stated that compared to the library instruction programs in 4-year institutions, the community college programs are usually more innovative, display more and better graphics, utilize more and better audio-visual materials, more programmed, individualized and workbook-exercise instruction, and offer more packaged learning. However, in order to improve and assess their endeavors, community college librarians need to become more involved in library instruction research, plan their programs by basing them on need-related objectives, and develop closer faculty contact and cooperation. They should also investigate the possibilities of obtaining grant money for such activities. Above all, the community college librarians should design the library skills programs around the type of programs offered at the campus and based on the needs and abilities of their students and faculty.

*Doris C. Dale, "Library Services to Community College Students", Journal of Academic Librarianship, May, 1977, p.81-84.

**The Director of Project LOEX is Carolyn Kirkendall.

ADDITIONAL SOURCES USED

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Hoffman, WilliamJ. "The Development of Quantitative Standards for Two-Year College Learning Resource Programs', Catholic Library World 48 (February, 1977),pp.276-279.

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Matthews, Elizabeth. "Trends Affecting Community College Library Admisnitrators", College and Research Libraries 38(May, 1977), pp.210-217

Reeves, Pamela. "Junior College Libraries Enter the Seventies", College and Research Libraries 34 (January, 1973), pp 7-15.

Sim, Yong S. An Indiviualized Library Orientation Program in Mercer County Community College Library:Curriculum Development.1978.28p. ED 119 651

Thompson, Sara K. Learning Resources Centers in Community Colleges. Chicago: American Library Association, 1975. pp.101-105.

Vernon, Christie. An Individualized Program for Learning Resource Orientation. 1975. 66p. ED 114 086

The information was gathered through questionnaires and followed up by 15 personal interviews, mostly by telephone.

APPENDIX

DIRECTORY OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE LIBRARIES AND LIBRARY INSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES IN MICHIGAN - 1977

INSTITUTION	PUBLIC/PRIVATE	ENROLLMENT*	LIBRARY HOLDINGS
1. Alpena Community College Jule Hartwick, Librarian 666 Johnson St. Alpena, Mi 49707 Tel: 517-356-9021	x	1846	22,122 vols.
2. Bay de Noc Community College Michael Burns, Librarian Learning Resources Center Escanaba, Mi 49829 Tel: 906-786-5802	x	1459	20,000 vols.200jrls
3. Delta College Douglas Anderson, Librarian Learning Resources Center University Center, Mi 48710 Tel:517-686-0400	x	7480	78,490vols.568jrls
4. Glen Oakes Community College Marilyn Gosling, Librarian Learning Resources Center Centreville, Mi 49032 Tel:616-467-9945	x	1154	30,000vols.327jrls
5. Gogebic Community College Inja Hong, Librarian Alex D. Chisholm Learning Resources Center Ironwood, Mi 49938 Tel:906-932-4233	x	1232	20,000vols.

Library Instruction: Library lectures are given by librarians upon request from the faculty, mostly to English classes. The librarian also teaches the reference course in the library technician program. Various other activities have been abandoned because of lack of student interest.

Library Instruction: Orientation tours and lectures are given by librarians to new students at the beginning of the term. A student handbook is available for the library information. Some media orientation programs are in preparation.

Library Instruction: Librarians give lectures on the LRC to a variety of classes upon the request of faculty members. A media instructional package on the library is in the developing stages.

Library Instruction: Librarians give tours and lectures on the LRC to classes upon request of instructors, a handbook on the library is available, a media program on the library is being developed.

Library Instruction: Librarians are involved in freshmen orientation activities, English instructors provide students with library information in cooperation with librarians, printed bibliographies and guides as well as a handbook on the library are available.

INSTITUTION	PUBLIC/PRIVATE	ENROLLMENT	LIBRARY HOLDINGS

6. Grand Rapids Junior College x 5916 40,000vols.326jrls
John Lally, Librarian
Arthur Andrews Memorial Library
140 Ranson NE
Grand Rapids, Mi 49502
Tel: 616-456-4895

Library Instruction: Tours of the library are given upon request to groups andclasses. Exercises have been prepared by an English instructor with input from the library, they take from 1-4 hours for students to complete. Librarians act as consultants to the students. Term paper clinics are also given.

7. Henry Ford Community College x 14,709 73,000vols,950jrls
Avram Rosenthal, Librarian
Eshleman Library
5101 Evergreen
Dearborn, Mi 48128
Tel:313-271-2750

Library Instruction: Library orientation to English classes is provided by the library director upon request of instructors.

8. Highland Park Community College 3530 30,000vols,
Betty Kaiser, Librarian x
Glendale and Third Ave.
Highland Park, Mi 48203
Tel: 313-868-1264

Library Instruction: Nothing to report.

9. Jackson Community College x 7607 30,000vols.350jrls
Mabre Krueger, Librarian
2111 Emmons Rd.
Jackson, Mi 49201
Tel: 517-787-0800

Library Instruction: Since 1966 a library orientation program is in existence Through cooperation with the faculty lectures are given to English classes. Library instruction is also provided to high school English students and continuing education students. Bibliographic guides and a library handbook are available. A slide-tape program on the library is in preparation.

10. Kalamazoo Valley Community College 6073 43,880vols.500jrls.
Alfred Segar, Librarian x
Learning Resources Center
6767 West O Ave.
Kalamazoo, Mi 49001
Tel: 616-375-5000

Library Instruction: The librarians are working with faculty to integrate library instruction into the class curriculum. A list of different types of student assignments andhow library instruction can fit into them has been developed. Tours, lectures, term paper clinics and self-instruction modules are utilized in this program. Guides, handbooks and slide-tape programs are also available. The program is publicized widely. Questionnaires are used to evaluate the program.

INSTITUTIONS	PUBLIC/PRIVATE	ENROLLMENT	LIBRARY HOLDINGS

11. Kellogg Community College — x — 8389 — 35,095vols.406jrls
Frank Crooks, Librarian
Emory W. Morris Learning Resources Center
Battle Creek, Mi 49016
Tel: 616-965-3931

Library Instruction: Library instruction is provided to English, Biology and Health Sciences classes through the cooperation of the faculty. Lectures, tours, point-of-use instruction and slide-tape instruction are part of the total program. A pre-test of library knowledge is available. Print materials including a library handbook are available. Much publicity is another feature of the program. Individualized library instruction based on instructional objectives is being prepared.

12. Kirtland Community College — x — 1579 — 23,000vols.300jrls.
Stuart Lawrence, Librarian
Learning Resources Center
Box 59 A, Rt. #4
Roscommon, Mi 48653
Tel:517-275-5121

Library Instruction: Orientation tours and lectures to English classes as requested by intructors are given by the librarians.

13. Lake Michigan College — x — 3865 — 60,000vols.400jrls
William Hessel, Librarian
2755 E. Napier
Benton Harbor, Mi 49022
Tel:616-927-3571

Library Instruction: An informal orientation program exists which includes providing lectures to classes upon faculty's requests. Term paper clinics orientation to high school students and adult education groups are also given.

14. Lansing Community College — x — 15,436 — 65,000vols.675jrls
Ellen Person, Librarian
419 N. Capitol Ave.
Lansing, Mi 48901
Tel: 517-373-7400

Library Instruction: An extensive library instruction program is offered including librarians giving lectures to classes in cooperation with faculty, a faculty orientation package, individualized-programmed workbook instructio media orientation packages and regular library skills credit courses.

15. Macomb County Community College-South Campus — 18505 — 60,000vols. 650jrls
Max Thompson Learning Resources Center
14500 Twelve Mile Rd. — x
Warren, Mi 48093
Tel: 313-779-7000

Library Instruction: No program reported.

INSTITUTION	PUBLIC/PRIVATE	ENROLLMENT	LIBRARY HOLLDINGS

15b Macomb County Community College - Center Campus
Barbara Collinsworth, Librarian
Center Campus Library x 6208 35,000vols.440jrls
16500 Hall Rd.
Mt. Clemens, Mi 48043
Tel: 313-268-8000

Library Instruction: The program has been in existence for 8 years and consists of library lectures to classes in English, Sciences, Business, law enforcement, office sciences and social sciences upon request of faculty. Tours to various groups are also offered e.g. career development. Printed and media guides are available.

16. Mid Michigan Community College
Laurine Wright, Librarian x 2200
1375 S. Clare Ave.
Harrison, Mi 48625
Tel:517-386-7792

Library Instruction: Individual orientation tours and printed guides are available. Classroom lectures are also given by librarians.

17. Monroe Community College x 2119 50,000vols.600jrls
Joan Woodruff, Librarian
1555 S. Raisinville Rd.
Monroe, Mi 48161
Tel:313-242-7300

Library Instruction:For more than 7 years library orientation, research paper assistance and specialized library instruction to nursing and secretarial programs have been available. 100% of the English classes make use of this service. A slide-tape program is also available and various print hadnouts. Exercises are also available. Informal evaluations have taken place.

see item 19.

18. C.S. Mott Community College 23,922 76,000vols.400jrls
Don S. Pelkey, Librarian x
C.S. Mott Library
1401 E. Court St.
Flint, Mi 48503
Tel: 313-235-7541

Library Instruction: Library orientation is available in media format and also in form of lectures to classes such as English, health sciences etc as requested by instructors. Exercises, term paper clinics and printed guides are other parts of the program.

19. Muskegon Community College 6034 40,000vols.430jrls.
Dr. Daniel Lindeken, Librarian
Allen G. Umbreit Library x
221 S. Quarterline Rd.
Muskegon, Mi 49442
Tel: 616-773-9131

Library Instruction: Orientation tours and lectures to English and other subject courses are given in cooperation with faculty. A credit course (1cr.) called learning resources and research skills is also offered. Special orientation such as to prisoners are also given. Exercises, a

INSTITUTION	PUBLIC/PRIVATE	ENROLLMENT	LIBRARY HOLDINGS

library handbook, a self-guided library tour and print guides are also available.

20. North Central Michigan College — 1600 — 20,000vols.150jrls.
Raymond Kalbfleisch, Librarian
Howard Street x
Petoskey, Mi 49770
Tel:616-347-3973

Library Instruction: Instructors bring some classes to the library for orientation.

21. Nortwestern Michigan College — 4135 — 35,000vols.422jrls.
Bernard C. Rink, Librarian x
Mark Osterlin Library
Traverse City, Mi 49684
Tel: 616-946-5650

Library Instruction: Different approaches to orientation are tried each year. The director talks to students during general orientation. A library handbook and some printed handouts are available.

22a Oakland Community College - Auburn Hills.. 18,873
Eugene Larson, Librarian (for the 4 campuses)
2480 Opdyke Rd. x
Bloomfield Hills, Mi 48013
Tel: 313-852-1000

Library Instruction: A one-hour credit course called Introduction to research is offered. Other course-related lectures are given to classes in English, Psychology and Business in cooperation with the instructors. A library handbook, bibliographies and subject guides are available.

22b Oakland Community College - Highland Lake Campus — 22,616 vols

7350 Cooley Lake Rd. x
Union Lake, Mi 48085
Tel: 313-363-7191

Library Instruction: No program reported.

22c Oakland Community College - Orchard Ridge Campus — 62,289 vols.1173jrls
Rene Amaya, Librarian x
Martin Luther King Jr. Learning Resources Center
27055 Orchard Lake Rd.
Farmington, Mi 48024
Tel: 313-476-9400

Library Instruction: Some media orientation programs and various lectures to classes as requested by instructors make up the library orientation pro - gram.

22d Oakland Community College - Southeast Campus
Thomas Lewandowski, Librarian
Southeast Center Library x
13200 Oak Park Blvd.
Oak Park, Mi 48237
Tel: 313-548-1252

INSTITUTION	PUBLIC/PRIVATE	ENROLLMENT	LIBRARY HOLDINGS

Library Instruction: General orientation and lectures to various classes as requested by faculty are provided. Some media orientation programs are planned.

23. Saint Clair County Community College — 4181 — 40,000vols.500jrls
Ruth Foley, Librarian x
Clara E. Mackenzie Library
323 Erie St.
Port Huron, Mi 48060
Tel: 313-984-3881

Library Instruction: Lectures to English classes cover almost 100% of this population with the cooperation of the instructors. Lectures to other courses are also provided. Two slide-tape programs on the library and on periodical indexes have been completed. A credit course on library skills will be offered by the library for the first time during the winter term of 1977. A library handbook and other printed guides are available.

24. Schoolcraft College x — 8056 — 60.000vols., 500jrls
John Olson, Librarian
Eric J. Bradner Library
18600 Haggerty Rd.
Livonia, Mi 48151
Tel:313-591-6400

Library Instruction: Librarians give lectures to classes such as English, business, career areas and law upon request of instructors. Printed guides and slide-tape information is available. Some evaluation of the program has taken place.

25. Southwestern Michigan College — 1525 — 25,000vols.250jrls
Charlotte Wentz, Librarian x
Fred L. Mathews Library
Cherry Grove Rd.
Dowagiac, Mi 49047
Tel: 616-782-5113

Library Instruction: English instructors provide library instruction to students supported by librarians. Worksheets are used. Librarians give some tours. They are also trying to develop some media programs on the library.

26. Washtenaw Community College x — 6730 — 40,000vols,400jrls
Del Scott, Librarian
Learning Resources Center
4800 E. Huron
Ann Arbor, Mi 48107
Tel: 313-971-6300

Library Instruction: Lectures by librarians to almost all the English classes through the cooperation of the instructors are one feature of the program. Special group instruction, term paper clinis and tutorials are also given. A library handbook, pathfinders and study guides are also available. A 2-hour credit course on research will be offered for the first time in the winter of 1977. Media programs are being planned.

INSTITUTION	PUBLIC/PRIVATE	ENROLLMENT	LIBRARY HOLDINGS

27. Wayne County Community College — 15,453
Thomas Ristau, Librarian — x
4612 Woodward Ave.
Detroit, Mi 48201
Tel: 313-832-5500

Library Instruction: Some library instruction is provided to classes upon request from the faculty but mostly the program is in the planning stages.

28. West Shore Community College — x — 761 — 8134vols
Mike Hypio, Librarian
Instructional Media Center
P.O. Box 277
Scottville, Mi 49454
Tel:616-845-6211

Library Instruction: Library tours and some lectures to classes through faculty cooperation are given by librarians. Some printed handouts are also available for students.

29. Montcalm Community College — x — 918 — 19,000vols, 200jrl
John Carlson, Librarian
Sidney, Mi 488
Tel: 517-328-2111

Library Instruction: Orientation tours and lectures to classes upon request from faculty are given by librarian. Some printed guides and a library handbook is also available.

30. Michigan Christian Junior College — x — 346 — 12,250 vols
Marilyn McInteer, Librarian
800 W. Avon Rd.
Rochester, Mi 48063
Tel: 313-651-5800

Library Instruction: No program reported

31. Muskegon Business College — x — 850 — 3760vols.35jrls
Mary S. Moore, Librarian
Apple at Spring
Muskegon, Mi 49442
Tel:616-7264904

Library Instruction: No program reported

32. Suomi College — x — 438
Janet Dahlquist, Librarian
Quincy St.
Hancock, Mi 49930
Tel: 906-482-5300

Library Instruction: Orientation tours and lectures to classes as requested by faculty are given by the librarian. Faculty workshops are given every few years. Some programmed library instruction is also available. Subject bibliographies, a library handbooks and guides have been prepared. a 2-hour credit course on library skills is taught by the librarian.